CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

21. A spring element for a game racket, comprising:

a resilient casing having a first side portion and a second side portion, opposite and facing the first side portion, wherein the side portions define at least one space in between them; and

at least one damping and/or tension element within the space between the side portions,

wherein said resilient casing is to be disposed on at least one part of a head frame of the game racket to cooperate with at least one string in tension.~~; and~~

~~wherein the first side portion, when disposed on the head frame, interacts with said space and said second side portion to resist deformation when subjected to string tension.~~

22. The spring element according to claim **21**, wherein the element is adapted to defom, upon deflection of the at least one string, to alleviate ~~ameliorate~~ the increase in string tension and to generate a resistance force.

23. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element comprises a substance selected from the group consisting of a liquid, gas, and a vapor.

24. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element comprises a bladder filled with a substance selected from the group consisting of a liquid, gas, and a vapor.

25. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element comprises an elastomeric material.

26. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element comprises a solid, compressible material.

27. The element according to claim **25**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element has a predetermined profile in an uncompressed state.

28. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the element comprises eyelets and/or corresponding holes to receive the at least one string.

29. The element according to claim **21**, further comprising a plurality of damping and/or tension elements located within the space.

30. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the first side portion and a second side portion are generally concave.

31. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the first side portion and a second side portion are generally convex.

32. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the at least one space is further divided by at least one interior wall section.

33. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the at least one space is fluid tight.

34. The element according to claim **21**, further comprising a connecting armature including an eyelet for receiving the at least one string in tension.

35. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the first side portion of the casing penetrates through the second side portion to form a supporting hole profile.

36. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the element is formed with a mating circumferential curvature shape to extend along a total periphery of, and to mate with, the head frame.

37. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the element is formed with a mating circumferential curvature shape to extend along a portion of the total periphery of, and to mate with, the head frame.

38. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the resilient casing comprises at least one recess in at least one side portion to receive at least one damping and/or tension element.

39. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the resilient casing comprises a fiber-reinforced plastic, a metal, or a carbon-metallic fiber plastic.

40. A game racket, comprising:

a handle,
a head frame with strings held in tension, and
a spring element, the spring element comprising:

a resilient casing having a first side portion and a second side portion, opposite and facing the first side portion, wherein the side portions define at least one space in between them; and

at least one damping and/or tension element within the space between the side portions,

wherein said resilient casing is disposed on at least one part of the head frame to cooperate with at least one string in tension.~~, and~~

~~wherein the first side portion, interacts with said space and said second side portion to resist deformation when subjected to string tension.~~

41. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the spring element is adapted to deform, upon deflection of the at least one string, to alleviate ~~ameliorate~~ the increase in string tension and to generate a resistance force.

42. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element of the spring element comprises a substance selected from the group consisting of a liquid, gas, and a vapor.

43. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element of the spring element comprises a bladder filled with a substance selected from the group consisting of a liquid, gas, and a vapor.

44. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element of the spring element comprises an elastomeric material.

45. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element of the spring element comprises a solid, compressible material.

46. The game racket according to claim **44**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element of the spring element has a predetermined profile in an uncompressed state.

47. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the spring element comprises eyelets and/or corresponding holes to receive the at least one string.

48. The game racket according to claim **40**, further comprising a plurality of damping and/or tension elements located within the space in the spring element.

49. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the first side portion and a second side portion are generally concave.

50. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the at least one space within the spring element is further divided by at least one interior wall section.

51. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the at least one space within the spring element is fluid tight.

52. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the spring element further comprises a connecting armature including an eyelet for receiving the at least one string in tension.

53. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the first side portion of the spring element penetrates through the second side portion to form a supporting hole profile.

54. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the spring element is formed with a mating circumferential curvature shape to extend along a total periphery of, and to mate with, the head frame.

55. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the element is formed with a mating circumferential curvature shape to extend along a portion of the total periphery of, and to mate with, the head frame.

56. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the spring element forms an internal space in relation to an outer facing surface of the head frame profile.

57. The game racket according to claim **56**, further comprising at least one damping and/or tension element within the internal space.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

21. (currently amended) A spring element for a game racket, comprising:

a resilient casing having a first side portion and a second side portion, opposite and facing the first side portion, wherein the side portions define at least one space in between them; and

at least one damping and/or tension element within the space between the side portions,

wherein said resilient casing is to be disposed on at least one part of a head frame of the game racket to cooperate with at least one string in tension.

22. (currently amended) The spring element according to claim **21**, wherein the element is adapted to deform, upon deflection of the at least one string, to alleviate the increase in string tension and to generate a resistance force.

23. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element comprises a substance selected from the group consisting of a liquid, gas, and a vapor.

24. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element comprises a bladder filled with a substance selected from the group consisting of a liquid, gas, and a vapor.

25. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element comprises an elastomeric material.

26. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element comprises a solid, compressible material.

27. The element according to claim **25**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element has a predetermined profile in an uncompressed state.

28. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the element comprises eyelets and/or corresponding holes to receive the at least one string.

29. The element according to claim **21**, further comprising a plurality of damping and/or tension elements located within the space.

30. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the first side portion and a second side portion are generally concave.

31. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the first side portion and a second side portion are generally convex.

32. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the at least one space is further divided by at least one interior wall section.

33. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the at least one space is fluid tight.

34. The element according to claim **21**, further comprising a connecting armature including an eyelet for receiving the at least one string in tension.

35. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the first side portion of the casing penetrates through the second side portion to form a supporting hole profile.

36. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the element is formed with a mating circumferential curvature shape to extend along a total periphery of, and to mate with, the head frame.

37. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the element is formed with a mating circumferential curvature shape to extend along a portion of the total periphery of, and to mate with, the head frame.

38. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the resilient casing comprises at least one recess in at least one side portion to receive at least one damping and/or tension element.

39. The element according to claim **21**, wherein the resilient casing comprises a fiber-reinforced plastic, a metal, or a carbon-metallic fiber plastic.

40. (currently amended) A game racket, comprising:

a handle,
a head frame with strings held in tension, and
a spring element, the spring element comprising:

a resilient casing having a first side portion and a second side portion, opposite and facing the first side portion, wherein the side portions define at least one space in between them; and

at least one damping and/or tension element within the space between the side portions,

wherein said resilient casing is disposed on at least one part of the head frame to cooperate with at least one string in tension.

41. (currently amended) The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the spring element is adapted to deform, upon deflection of the at least one string, to alleviate the increase in string tension and to generate a resistance force.

42. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element of the spring element comprises a substance selected from the group consisting of a liquid, gas, and a vapor.

43. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element of the spring element comprises a bladder filled with a substance selected from the group consisting of a liquid, gas, and a vapor.

44. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element of the spring element comprises an elastomeric material.

45. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element of the spring element comprises a solid, compressible material.

46. The game racket according to claim **44**, wherein the at least one damping and/or tension element of the spring element has a predetermined profile in an uncompressed state.

47. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the spring element comprises eyelets and/or corresponding holes to receive the at least one string.

48. The game racket according to claim **40**, further comprising a plurality of damping and/or tension elements located within the space in the spring element.

49. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the first side portion and a second side portion are generally concave.

50. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the at least one space within the spring element is further divided by at least one interior wall section.

51. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the at least one space within the spring element is fluid tight.

52. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the spring element further comprises a connecting armature including an eyelet for receiving the at least one string in tension.

53. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the first side portion of the spring element penetrates through the second side portion to form a supporting hole profile.

54. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the spring element is formed with a mating circumferential curvature shape to extend along a total periphery of, and to mate with, the head frame.

55. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the element is formed with a mating circumferential curvature shape to extend along a portion of the total periphery of, and to mate with, the head frame.

56. The game racket according to claim **40**, wherein the spring element forms an internal space in relation to an outer facing surface of the head frame profile.

57. The game racket according to claim **56**, further comprising at least one damping and/or tension element within the internal space.